

Census Goes to School!



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Welcome

Census 2000 is almost here.

You can help make sure everyone is counted. When students understand the importance of the census, they will spread the word to their parents and their communities. This will lead to greater participation in Census 2000 and in future censuses when our civic-minded students become adults.

In 1990, about 2 million children were left out of the decennial census count. Many of these omissions resulted from parents and guardians filling out census forms without including the children in their care. For nearly 10 years, this underreporting has had a profound impact on funding in the school districts and communities where these children live.

So teach about the census and get involved in school and community activities that educate and motivate people to participate in the census. You can use **Making Sense of Census 2000** teaching materials anytime, but we especially encourage you to use them during **Teach Census Week — March 13–17, 2000 — to coincide with the delivery of the census questionnaire.**

Look for the following Census 2000 materials and resources:

- **Principal Kit**
(arrives in schools January – February 2000)
- **Take-Home Materials – for middle and junior high school social studies teachers and all elementary teachers.**
(arrive in schools February 2000)
- **Census 2000 Web site: www.census.gov**
(includes fact sheets, articles, information, and more!)

Teach Census Week: March 13–17, 2000

In March and April, each resident of the U.S. will be asked to participate in Census 2000. This opportunity for exercising civic responsibility comes only once every ten years. Educators all over the country will be teaching about the census in mid-March, when census questionnaires arrive in every household. Organize teachers in your school to plan schoolwide and community activities. Use the lesson plans from your **Making Sense of Census 2000** teaching kits as well as teaching suggestions from education publications (see list on back page). Read more in this newsletter to generate additional ideas. Don't miss this opportunity. Teaching about the census can take place in every class, in the hallway, and even in the office!

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This is your future. Don't leave it blank.

